

INFORMATION REPORT

CD NO.

COUNTRY Albania

DATE DISTR. 29 MAR 50

SUBJECT Military Warehouses in the Vicinity
of Gjinokaster

NO. OF PAGES 2

PLACE
ACQUIRED

NO. OF ENCLS.
(LISTED BELOW)

DATE OF
INFO.

SUPPLEMENT TO
REPORT NO.

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THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

1. On the outskirts of the village of Picar, in a place called the Pit, a building has reportedly been constructed shortly prior to the date of this report. The entire area surrounding the building is enclosed with a barbed wire fence and guarded by 10 to 15 soldiers. It is believed that this building is a warehouse for war materials.
2. The entire area belonging to the St. Nicholas monastery (from Plesat to Munashtir) is a restricted military area, and anyone approaching it unlawfully may be shot on sight by the guards. It is enclosed by a barbed wire fence. The number of military personnel used to guard this area is unknown. Ammunition and other war materials are reported to be stored both inside the monastery and in the caves which lie to the west of it.
3. There reportedly is a field artillery battery (four heavy guns) on the farm of Refic Budo, at Viroj, along the right bank of the Drin River. War materials are also stored in two newly constructed buildings in the same area, but on the left bank of the Drin. Both of these areas are enclosed by a barbed wire fence and guarded by soldiers. The two buildings mentioned above are quite large; they are constructed entirely from reinforced concrete and are located about 1,500 meters from the military barracks of Gjinokaster.
4. The church of the Gjinokaster Brigadiers (sic) has been converted into a military warehouse. It is surrounded by a barbed wire fence and guarded by soldiers. The church cemetery (Orthodox) is included in the restricted area and burials in it are prohibited. The site of the old slaughterhouse is being used today as a cemetery.
5. A military warehouse has been constructed on the ruins of the monastery warehouse. It is a restricted area, surrounded by barbed wire fence and under guard.

CLASSIFICATION

SECRET

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6. The Baba Ali mosque, at Kullurice, has been converted into a military warehouse. It is a restricted area, surrounded by a barbed wire fence and under guard. Traffic from Gjinokaster and Lezara is not permitted to pass along the road near this mosque.
7. The Baba Sulejman mosque has also been converted into a military establishment. It is used as a guardhouse for military court-martial proceedings.

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Comment: The above information, although late, is passed on for whatever value it might still have; much of it, even if possibly true at the time of the Grammos and Vitsi campaigns, may no longer be applicable.

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